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Promotion of ways and means of ensuring a uniform interpretation and application of UNCITRAL legal texts

Note by the Secretariat

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I. Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT)

Background

1. CLOUT continues to be one of the Secretariat's tools to promote the uniform interpretation and application of UNCITRAL texts, as it facilitates access to decisions and awards from many different jurisdictions. Furthermore, it contributes to the promotion of UNCITRAL legal texts since it demonstrates that the texts are being used and applied in many different countries and that judges and arbitrators at different latitudes are contributing to their interpretation. CLOUT also provides the basis for the analysis of interpretation trends that is a key part of the case law Digests. Background information on CLOUT and the Digests, is provided in the Provisional Agenda of the fifty-first session of the Commission (A/CN.9/927/Rev.1, para. 55).

2. At present, case law on the following texts is reported in the system:

- United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958 (New York Convention);[1]
- Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, 1974 and Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods as amended by the Protocol amending the Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, 1980 (Limitation Convention);
- United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (Hamburg Rules);
- United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, 1980 (CISG);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers, 1992 (MLICT);
- United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit, 1995 (UNLOC);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, 1985, as amended in 2006 (MAL);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce, 1996 (MLEC);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency, 1997 (MLCBI);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures, 2001 (MLES); and
- United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts, 2005 (ECC).

3. Case law to be reported in CLOUT is provided by a network of national correspondents that, either as individuals or a specific organ or body, monitor and collect court decisions and arbitral awards and prepare abstracts of those considered relevant in one of the six official languages of the United Nations. The Secretariat collects the full texts of the decisions and awards in their original language and publishes them. The abstracts are edited and translated by the Secretariat into the official United Nations languages and published in all such languages as part of the regular documentation of UNCITRAL (under the identifying symbol: A/CN.9/SER.C/ABSTRACTS/...).

4. While the national correspondents are the principal support of the system, in agreement with the correspondents, contributions from scholars or institutions who

[1] The Commission may recall that at its forty-first session, in 2008, it agreed that, resources permitting, the Secretariat could collect and disseminate information on the judicial interpretation of the New York Convention (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/63/17), para. 360. A comprehensive database of case law on the New York Convention complementing CLOUT can be found at www.newyorkconvention1958.org (see paras. 16–19 below and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/68/17), paras. 134–140).

are not appointed as national correspondents are also accepted, subject to control and prior notification to the relevant national correspondent, if appointed. This practice is consistent with the Commission's recommendation of utilizing all available sources of information to supplement the information provided by the national correspondents.[2] National correspondents meet every two years, when the Commission is in session in Vienna, to take stock of the latest developments and challenges of CLOUT maintenance and improvement.

Abstracts published and received

5. As at the date of this note, 190 issues of CLOUT had been prepared for publication, dealing with 1,752 cases from 69 jurisdictions.[3] The table below provides a breakdown by legislative text of those cases.

Legislative text	*Number of published cases*
CISG	904
CISG and Limitation Convention	4
CISG and Limitation Convention (amended text)	4
CISG and MLICT	1
CISG and MAL	1
MAL	455
New York Convention	210
New York Convention and MAL	4
MLCBI	112
MLEC	33
Limitation Convention	13 (Six cases relate to the Limitation Convention amended text)
Limitation Convention and MLEC	1
EEC	3
EEC and MLEC	1
Hamburg Rules	3
MLES	1
MLICT	1
UNLOC	1

6. With regard to the jurisdictions providing the abstracts, no meaningful changes can be recorded in respect of the figures provided last year (see para. 6, A/CN.9/906). The majority of the abstracts published referred to Western European and other States (63 per cent, approximately), while the other regional groups were represented as follows (all figures are approximate): Asian States (17 per cent), Eastern European States (13 per cent), Latin American and Caribbean States (3 per cent) and African States (3 per cent). A few abstracts pertained to awards of the International Chamber

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), para. 371.

[3] The jurisdictions include: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bermuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, China, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

of Commerce and one abstract related to a decision of the European Union Court of Justice.

7. Since its last Note to the Commission, the Secretariat received 129 new abstracts from national correspondents and voluntary contributors. The table below reflects the breakdown by text.

Legislative text	*Number of abstracts received*
CISG	55
CISG and Limitation Convention	3
CISG and Limitation Convention (amended text)	1
CISG and MAL	1
New York Convention	38
New York Convention and MAL	4
MAL	15
MLCBI	8
MLEC	2
Limitation Convention	2 (One case relates to the Limitation Convention, amended text)

The court decisions and the arbitral awards to which the abstracts refer were rendered in 28 jurisdictions.[4]

8. In the period under review, 91 abstracts were also published:

Legislative text	*Number of abstracts published*
CISG	35
CISG and Limitation Convention (amended text)	2
New York Convention	37
New York Convention and MAL	4
MAL	9
EEC	1
Limitation Convention	2 (One case relates to the Limitation Convention, amended text)
MLEC	1

For the first time, the Secretariat published abstracts from Greece, the European Union Court of Justice, Ireland and Paraguay.[5]

[4] The jurisdictions providing abstracts were as follows: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Croatia, European Union Court of Justice, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, China, India, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America.

[5] The Secretariat also published abstracts from the following jurisdictions: Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Croatia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The network of national correspondents

9. The network of national correspondents was renewed in 2017[6]. The current network is composed of 84 national correspondents representing 34 States.[7] States that have not yet appointed national correspondents are encouraged to do so. Their term will be the same as for the correspondents appointed in 2017 and will thus expire in 2022.

10. As to the abstracts provided by the national correspondents since the Secretariat's last Note to the Commission, they represented approximately 33 per cent of the abstracts published. The remaining abstracts were received from voluntary contributors or prepared by the Secretariat.

Maintenance of the database

11. The Secretariat continued making available to users the full text decisions stored in the database's archives, while full texts of new case law received by the Secretariat were regularly uploaded upon receipt, providing there were no copyright or other restrictions by reason of the law of the State where the court decisions were rendered.

12. In the period under review, the CLOUT database received over 33,000 visitors. According to data provided by free web analytics services, most of the users would be located in China, United States of America, India, United Kingdom, Mexico, Spain, Egypt, Colombia, Australia and France.

13. At their meeting in 2017 (see para. 304, A/72/17), several national correspondents suggested improvements to the user-friendliness of the CLOUT database, in particular its search functions were said to be rather cumbersome. The Secretariat has looked into possible solutions, however they require resources (human and financial) currently not available to the Secretariat.

Information on CLOUT

14. The Secretariat continued posting information on CLOUT's latest releases on the UNCITRAL blog (under the "What's new at UNCITRAL?" pages) and the UNCITRAL LinkedIn account in order to provide an "alert" feature to CLOUT users and raise the visibility of the system at the same time. A Facebook page of the Commission being set up recently, the Secretariat also used that social media to share information about CLOUT.

15. In collaboration with the national correspondents the Secretariat finalized a third revision of the CLOUT User Guide and made it available in the six official languages of the United Nations on the UNCITRAL web-site. This new revision of the Guide is intended to provide more detailed guidance for the preparation of the abstracts. The User Guide is for the use of both national correspondents and voluntary contributors.

II. The Digests

16. At its fiftieth session, the Secretariat informed the Commission that the 2016 edition of the CISG Digest had been published as an e-book, in English, on the UNCITRAL website and that translation in the other official languages was ongoing (see para. 14, A/CN.9/906). The translation was finalized and the Digest is now available in all six official languages of the United Nations on the UNCITRAL website. Work to update the current edition of the MAL Digest progressed slowly in

[6] See A/CN.9/906, para. 8.

[7] States that have appointed national correspondents are: Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America.

the period under review due to limited resources available to the Secretariat. Finalization of the MLCBI Digest was also ongoing.

III. A way forward for CLOUT

17. At its fiftieth session, the Secretariat drew the Commission's attention to the purpose and implementation of the CLOUT system and their currency at a time in which a wealth of well-established commercial and non-commercial legal resources, both online and on paper, greatly facilitated access to domestic and international case law, including case law that applied UNCITRAL texts (see para. 303, A/72/17). In this regard, the Commission noted that the Secretariat in consultation with CLOUT national correspondents, might provide more detailed information on possible ways to approach that matter for the Commission's consideration at its future sessions. Since in 2019 the biennial meeting of national correspondents will take place, the Commission might wish to consider a possible discussion on CLOUT's way forward at its fifty-second session, which might benefit from the participation of national correspondents.

IV. Promotion of uniform interpretation of the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958 (New York Convention)

18. The newyorkconvention1958.org website continued to expand, not only by way of increasing the volume of case law published on the application of the Convention, but also by way of adding information about the jurisdictions which have adopted the Convention.

19. In the period under review, the website reached a significant milestone with more than 2,000 decisions from 58 common law and civil law jurisdictions now publicly accessible online. Over the past few months, new jurisdictions were added to the website, including Algeria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Ireland, Lebanon, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Paraguay, Qatar, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey. For each jurisdiction, the website now provides direct links to specific national legal databases accessible to all users.

20. More specifically, at the date of this Secretariat's Note the database included concise background notes on 47 Contracting States, 2,024 original-language decisions, 129 English-language translations, 1,148 summaries of cases, the *travaux préparatoires* and a bibliography on the New York Convention which consists of the most comprehensive directory of publications relating to the application and interpretation of such text (listing 884 books and articles from more than 76 countries in 11 different languages; 236 of such publications are directly accessible through hyperlinks).

21. The website has a new page dedicated to the events on the UNCITRAL Secretariat Guide on the New York Convention which have taken place over the past months (including in Hong Kong, New York, Nigeria and Paris, of which videos are accessible online).

22. As in previous years, close coordination between the website and the CLOUT system continued to be maintained. Several cases on the application of the New York Convention were published in both systems, which allowed for such cases to be available in the six official languages of the United Nations.

23. Finally, hardback special editions of the UNCITRAL Secretariat Guide on the New York Convention are now available in French and in English.

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UNCITRAL regional presence

Note by the Secretariat

Activities of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific

1. The General Assembly, in its resolutions 67/89 of 14 December 2012, 68/106 of 16 December 2013, 69/115 of 10 December 2014, 70/115 of 14 December 2015, 71/135 of 13 December 2016, and 72/113 of 7 December 2017, welcomed the activities of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific ("UNCITRAL-RCAP", "RCAP" or "Regional Centre"), in the Republic of Korea, towards providing capacity-building and technical assistance services to States in the Asia-Pacific region, including to international and regional organizations.

2. The Regional Centre has carried out its activities in accordance with the priority lines of action identified in the UNCITRAL Secretariat's strategic framework for technical assistance (A/66/17, para. 255 and A/CN.9/724, paras. 10–48), as well as with the specific mandate identified for the Regional Centre, which was revised in the 49th Commission session, namely as to (a) support public, private and civil society initiatives to enhance international trade and development by promoting certainty in international commercial transactions through the dissemination of international trade norms and standards, in particular those elaborated by UNCITRAL; (b) provide capacity-building and technical assistance services to States in the region, including to international and regional organizations, and development banks; (c) build and participate in regionally-based international trade law partnerships and alliances, including with other appropriate United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies; (d) strengthen information, knowledge and statistics through briefings, workshops, seminars, publications, social media, and information and communication technologies, including in regional languages; and (e) function as a channel of communication between States and UNCITRAL for non-legislative activities of the Commission.

Flagship Activities

3. The Regional Centre has continued to deliver its flagship activities during the reporting period with the objective of streamlining activities to promote UNCITRAL

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texts and establishing regular opportunities for substantive regional contributions to support the present and possible future legislative work of UNCITRAL:

UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Judicial Summit

(a) The UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Judicial Summit (Hong Kong, China, 16–18 October 2017) (second edition), a biennial event jointly hosted with the Department of Justice of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Judiciary of Hong Kong, China, and the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, supported by the Hague Conference of Private International Law and its Asia Pacific Regional Office. This summit is part of the Regional Centre's ongoing efforts to establish partnerships with judiciaries and judicial training institutions across the region to enhance the integration of capacity-building activities, widen the inclusion of UNCITRAL texts in training curricula and for the broader promotion of uniform interpretation of UNCITRAL texts. The summit featured a Judicial Roundtable and a Judicial Conference and was attended by 254 participants from 34 jurisdictions. The Judicial Roundtable was attended by judges invited from across the region with the purpose of facilitating uniform interpretation and application on the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration ("Model Law"), and enhancing knowledge on the judicial *glocalization* of the sale of goods and e-commerce laws, including the duty of uniform interpretation under the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980) ("CISG") and the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005) ("e-CC"). The Judicial Conference on "Judicial Efficient Support to International Arbitration, and Emerging Topics in International Arbitration" was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the United Nations Legal Counsel, Mr. Miguel Serpa Soares;

Asia Pacific ADR Conference

(b) The Asia Pacific ADR Conference (Seoul, 7–9 November 2017) (sixth edition), an annual regional conference, co-hosted with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea, the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board ("KCAB"), the Seoul International Dispute Resolution Centre and the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") — International Court of Arbitration. The Conference is designed to provide a regional platform for global legislative discussions, and to promote UNCITRAL standards on dispute settlement, aimed at officials, experts, practitioners, researchers, scholars, and representatives from arbitration centres. In 2017, the conference gathered 219 participants from 56 jurisdictions, who shared their opinions and research findings related to the conference themes. The 2017 conference had a special focus on "Access to Justice Innovations in Transnational Trade and Investment" addressing topics such as innovations by international arbitral institutions, prevention of abuse of process in international arbitration, new areas of international arbitration, investment dispute settlement, and sports arbitration in anticipation of the 2018 Olympic Winter Games which took place in PyeongChang, Republic of Korea. The conference featured a side event which included the Regional Capacity Building Workshop and the Regional Roundtable on 7 November. Delegates from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Paraguay, Thailand and Macau, China participated in the side event;

Asia Pacific Day

(c) The UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day, held during the last quarter of 2017 (fourth edition), aimed at promoting awareness, encouraging the study, discussion and implementation of the UNCITRAL texts and celebrating the establishment of UNCITRAL. Every year, universities from across the region are invited to join the celebrations by proposing a special programme that can range from special lectures and seminars, to public conferences. In 2017, 6 universities joined the celebrations, namely:

(i) Centre for Transnational Commercial Law of the National Law University, Delhi, which co-organized in collaboration with the National Company Law Tribunal and the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India an international conference on cross-border insolvency (New Delhi, 27–28 October 2017);

(ii) University of Western Australia, which organized a symposium featuring academics from Australia, South Africa, Denmark and the Chair of the UNCITRAL National Coordination Committee for Australia (Perth, Australia, 24 November 2017);

(iii) Beijing Normal University, which organized a seminar with a special focus on e-commerce in the cross-border and Chinese contexts (Beijing, 24 November 2017), within the framework of the joint programme on training and researching e-commerce law established by the Beijing Normal University Institute for the Internet Policy and Law and UNCITRAL-RCAP;

(iv) Wuhan University Institute of International Law and Wuhan University Center of Oversea Investment Law jointly organized a special lecture that focused on the use of UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, including on ISDS, in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative (Wuhan, China, 15 December 2017);

(v) University of Hong Kong, which organized a public lecture focusing on private international law aspects of the CISG (Hong Kong, China, 18 December 2017);

(vi) Center for Asian Legal Exchange, Nagoya University, which organized a public lecture on international commercial arbitration. (Nagoya, Japan, 18 December 2017).

Promotion of the universal adoption of UNCITRAL instruments

4. In addition to the above events, RCAP has, during the reporting period, organized, supported, and either through Incheon or Vienna-based staff of the UNCITRAL secretariat, participated in the following public, private and civil society initiatives:

(a) On UNCITRAL's mandate generally or with cross-topics focus:

(i) "The Belt and Road, A Catalyst for Connectivity, Convergence and Collaboration", conference hosted by the Law Society of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, China, 12 May 2017);

(ii) "One Step Closer: Promoting ASEAN Integration through the Harmonization of Commercial Law", conference co-hosted with the Supreme Court of Thailand, ASEAN Law Association, the International Institute for Trade and Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and the Thailand Arbitration Centre (Bangkok, 4–5 September 2017);

(iii) Public lecture on "Legal harmonization: the importance of UNCITRAL standards" at the University of Tehran's Institute of Comparative Law (Tehran, 25 November 2017);

(iv) Public lecture on "UNCITRAL mandate and its key standards on dispute settlement and international sale of goods" at the Iran Central Bar Association (Tehran, 26 November 2017);

(v) Presentations on CISG and on the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration at the seminar "Government to Government Export Contract" hosted by Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (Seoul, 28 November 2017);

(vi) 2017 UNCITRAL-UM Joint Conference "Modernization of National Commercial Laws and the Role of Legal Harmonization in International Commerce" (Macau, China, 11–12 December 2017), co-organized with the University of Macau and with the institutional support of the World Trade Centre

Macau. The conference gathered 150 participants who discussed a wide range of topics including dispute settlement along the Belt and Road Initiative, legal challenges faced by Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, UNCITRAL texts on e-commerce and their relevance to implement free trade agreements ("FTAs") and trade facilitation measures; and on sale of goods, security interests and insolvency in relation to cross-border supply chain management and financing;

(vii) Co-hosted and presented at the Macau International Legal Symposium on Promoting Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Lusophone Countries (Macau, China, 13 December 2017);

(b) In the area of dispute settlement:

(i) Institutional support to the conference "The Impact of Digitalization on Arbitration", co-organized by KCAB, the German Arbitration Institute, and Korean Council for International Arbitration, and promoted the relevance of the e-CC in the context of the theme of the conference (Seoul, 3 April 2017);

(ii) Video message on an "Update on Enforcement of International Commercial Settlement Agreements Resulting from Conciliation", at the Global Mediation Forum, organized by the Thailand Arbitration Center (Bangkok, 24 May 2017);

(iii) Institutional support and presentations on the implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards ("New York Convention") and the model laws on arbitration and conciliation in the region, including on jurisdictions within the Belt and Road Initiative, at the 3rd ICC-CIETAC Joint Conference on "International Arbitration Without Frontiers — Best Dispute Resolution Management for One Belt, One Road" (Shanghai, China, 27 June 2017);

(iv) Presentation at the Portuguese Arbitration Day, hosted by China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission ("CIETAC") (Beijing, 18 September 2017);

(v) Presentation at the China Arbitration Summit 2017, co-hosted by the Supreme People's Court of China, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and CIETAC (Beijing, 20 September 2017);

(vi) Key note address at the 2017 Hong Kong Summit on Commercial Dispute Resolution in China, within the Hong Kong Arbitration Week, co-organized by the Beijing Arbitration Commission/Beijing International Arbitration Center ("BAC"), the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration and Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (East Asia Branch) (Hong Kong, China, 14 October 2017);

(vii) Presentation at the International Seminar on "Indonesia and Development of International Arbitration", organized by the BANI Arbitration Center (Jakarta, 28 November 2017);

(viii) Jointly organized with the Shanghai International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission ("SHIAC") the 1st Asia-Pacific International Arbitration Forum on "Belt and Road International Arbitration: Opportunity and Challenge in Asia and the Pacific" (Shanghai, China, 20 March 2018);

(ix) Support to the International Conference on "Online Dispute Resolution Mechanism" organized by the Construction Industry Arbitration Council with the Ministry of Law of India (New Delhi, 21 April 2018);

(x) Institutional support to the celebratory conference for the occasion of the third anniversary of the Center for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration (Lahore, Pakistan, 28 April 2018);

(c) In the area of electronic commerce, including by promoting the "UNCITRAL e-commerce law 2.0", which includes the e-CC and the Model Law on Electronic Transferrable Records ("MLETR"):

(i) Presentation at the International Conference on E-Commerce in China: Legislation and Development (Beijing, 3 June 2017);

(ii) Presentation at the 2nd Global Cross-Border E-Commerce Summit (Hangzhou, China, 27 October 2017);

(iii) Presentation on "UNCITRAL E-Commerce Law 2.0 for the implementation of FTAs and Trade Facilitation Measures" at the Regional International Arbitration Conference on "The Dawn of International Arbitration in the South Pacific" (Nadi, Fiji, 13 February 2018);

(iv) Presentation on "UNCITRAL E-Commerce Law 2.0: Paving the way to our digital future in Asia and the Pacific" at the Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2018 (Hong Kong, China, 10–11 April 2018), the flagship regional business Forum organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ("UNESCAP");

(d) In the area of insolvency:

(i) Presentation at the 2017 Judicial Conference on Insolvency, hosted by the Seoul Bankruptcy Court (Seoul, 14–15 September 2017);

(ii) Presentation at the International Conference on "Cross-Border Insolvency and Maritime Matters", co-organized with the Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law of City University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, China, 21–22 November 2017);

(e) In the area of UNCITRAL standards on transparency in investor-State dispute settlement ("ISDS"):

(i) Presentation at the Inter-Pacific Bar Association 27th Annual Meeting and Conference (Auckland, New Zealand, 7 April 2017);

(ii) Institutional support and presented at the Asia FDI Forum III, organized by the Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, China, 12–13 May 2017);

(iii) Presentation at the 7th South China In-House Counsel Forum, organized by the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration titled "Belt & Road: Chinese Companies and Investment Arbitration", supported by the Supreme People's Court, Ministry of Commerce and other government departments of China (Shenzhen, China, 29 June 2017);

(iv) "ISDS & Japan: Prospective Seminar", jointly organized co-hosted with Nagoya University (Tokyo Office), the European Business Council and the European Union Mission in Japan (Tokyo, 8 September 2017);

(v) Presentation at the 7th Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Foreign Direct Investment Network (Bangkok, 2 November 2017);

(vi) Presentation at the Ministry of Justice-Seoul IDRC Workshop on "Investor-State Dispute Settlement" (Seoul, 10 November 2017);

(vii) Side Event on "Investor-State Dispute Resolution Roundtable", jointly organized with SHIAC during the first Asia-Pacific International Arbitration Forum (Shanghai, China, 21 March 2018);

(viii) Institutional support and presentation at the Asia FDI Forum IV on "Special Economic Zones: Issues and Implications for International Law & Policy", co-organized by Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, the World Economic Forum, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, China, 22–23 March 2018);

(f) In the area of procurement:

(i) Presentation at the "2017 Korea Public Procurement Expo and Concurrent Events in Public Procurement", organized by the Public Procurement Service of the Republic of Korea (Goyang, Republic of Korea, 19–20 April 2017);

(ii) Institutional support and expert input on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement, at the ASEAN Legal Alliance's Legal Conference 2017 on "Mega Infrastructure Projects and the International Experience of Public Private Partnership (PPP)" (Bangkok, 5 October 2017);

(g) In the area of the international sale of goods: presentation on the development of the international sale of goods law and its influence during the session "Quarter Century of Civil and Commercial Laws in Asia: Mutual Influence and Legal Technical Assistance", at the 30th LAWASIA Conference (Tokyo, 21 September 2017);

(h) In the area of security interests: presentation on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Secured Transactions, at the 2nd UNCITRAL-JAIBL Academic Symposium (Tokyo, 17 March 2018) and at the 30th LAWASIA Conference (Tokyo, 21 September 2017);

(i) In the area of international transport of goods: presentation at the "Rotterdam Rules Roundtable" (Singapore, 28 November 2017).

Technical assistance and capacity-building

5. In consultation and with the support of Vienna-based staff of the UNCITRAL secretariat, UNCITRAL-RCAP has also been engaged in the following technical assistance and capacity-building services, provided to States in the Asia-Pacific region, including to international and regional organizations, and development banks. Some of these activities are coordinated with various institutions referred to in paragraph 6 below:

(a) In the area of dispute settlement:

(i) Delivered two training sessions on the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration at the New York University and Thailand Arbitration Commission Joint Arbitrator Training Workshop, aimed at capacity-building for local practitioners (Bangkok, 15–16 June 2017);

(ii) Presentation at the Beijing Arbitration Commission Summit, on "Opportunities and Challenges on Draft Instruments on Enforcement of International Commercial Settlement Agreements Resulting from Conciliation" (Beijing, 31 August 2017);

(iii) Co-organized with and presented on the Model Law at the Masterclass with the International Dispute Resolution Academy, the University of International Business and Economics, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes and Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (Beijing, 23–24 October 2017);

(iv) Co-hosted with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea a Regional Capacity Building Workshop on the Model Law aimed at officials from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Kyrgyz Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Paraguay, Thailand and Macau, China (Seoul, 7 November 2017);

(b) In the area of electronic commerce:

(i) Technical briefing on the e-CC to officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Justice and Department of Trade and Industry of the Philippines and representatives from the Philippine Exporters Confederation (Manila, 23 May 2017);

(ii) Presentation at the "Capacity Building Workshop for Great Mekong Subregion on cross-border e-commerce", organized by the ASEAN Korea Centre with support from the Regional Centre (Seoul, 21–24 August 2017);

(iii) Technical briefing on "UNCITRAL e-Commerce Law 2.0" at the Working Group on E-Commerce in the context of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership negotiating rounds (Incheon, Republic of Korea, 23 October 2017);

(c) In the area of international sale of goods:

(i) Technical briefing on CISG to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Justice and Department of Trade and Industry of the Philippines, and representatives from the Philippine Exporters Confederation (Manila, 23 May 2017);

(ii) Technical briefing on CISG in a seminar organized by the Department of Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong, China, 17 October 2017);

(d) In the area of security interests:

(i) Participation in workshops to discuss the draft secured transactions law of Bahrain (Manama, 11–14 September 2017);

(ii) Meetings with the Ministry of Commerce, relevant government agencies and the National People's Congress of China to introduce the Receivables Convention and the Model Law on Secured Transactions (Beijing, 25 September 2017);

(iii) Presentation on "Can China be a Leading Example of Secured Transactions Law Reforms?", at the Conference on Warehouse Finance and Collateral Management, organized by the China Banking Association and International Finance Corporation (Beijing, 26–27 September 2017);

(iv) Presentation on "Modern Secured Transactions Legal Framework", at a workshop held at Renmin University (Beijing, 27 September 2017).

Coordination

6. Following its systematic coordination and cooperation efforts with institutions active in trade law reforms, the Regional Centre has, during the reporting period, continued participation in regionally-based international trade law partnerships and alliances, including with other appropriate United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in their efforts in providing technical assistance and capacity-building in the region, including:

(a) United Nations Delivering as One:

(i) Under the Lao People's Democratic Republic-United Nations Partnership Framework 2017–2021, as a non-resident agency, being tasked to contribute in "Outcome 7: Institutions and policies at national and local level support the delivery of quality services that better respond to people's needs" and "Outcome 8: People enjoy improved access to justice and fulfilment of their human rights":

a. Briefing on CISG, attended by 77 government officials from across several departments, practitioners and in-house legal counsels from major Laotian corporations (Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 25 April 2017);

b. Presentation at the International Seminar on "Law and Economic Dispute Resolution" at the Economic Dispute Resolution Center of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 14 December 2017);

(ii) Joined the United Nations Development Assistance Framework ("UNDAF") Papua New Guinea (2018–2022), as a non-resident agency;

(b) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ("UNESCAP"): the Regional Centre has pursued its technical engagement with UNESCAP in the context of the promotion and implementation of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, namely in relation to the e-CC. The following activities were coordinated with UNESCAP:

(i) Presentation at the "Workshop on Facilitation on Trade in Northeast Asia through Paperless Trade", highlighting the nexus between technical interoperability, technology neutrality and the adoption of uniform laws, and the success of the close cooperation with UNESCAP in drafting the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, 29–30 August 2017);

(ii) Participation in the Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum organized by UNESCAP, the Asian Development Bank and the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs Indonesia (eighth edition, 2017) on: "Trade Facilitation Innovations for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific". In addition to giving a presentation, the Regional Centre co-organized a half-day side event on "Taking FTA Electronic Commerce Chapters Seriously: UNCITRAL Texts for Mutual Recognition of Electronic Communications and Signatures" (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 5–8 September 2017);

(iii) Presentation at the Regional Consultation on E-Commerce for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, during the 5th Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Week, organized by UNESCAP (Bangkok, 30 October 2017);

(iv) Attended the UNESCAP Committee on Trade and Investment, and delivered two statements and as a result, the report of the Committee [E/ESCAP/CTI(5)/6] included references to the importance of UNCITRAL's work in strengthening and harmonising trade laws and regulations and the need to strengthen cooperation with UNCITRAL (Bangkok, 31 October 2017);

(v) Attendance and presentation at the Fifth Meeting of Legal and Technical Working Groups on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (Bangkok, 20–21 March 2018);

(c) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development ("UNCTAD") and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN"): presentation at the UNCTAD/ASEAN Workshop on e-commerce on "The Legal Challenges of E-Commerce" and "Roundtable — Assistance for E-Commerce Development in the Region", illustrating respectively, the relevance of UNCITRAL texts and UNCITRAL technical assistance activities (Manila, 8–9 November 2017);

(d) Asian Development Bank ("ADB"): ADB and UNCITRAL concluded an exchange of letters aimed at reforming arbitration laws in the South Pacific, focusing on accession to the New York Convention in January 2017. UNCITRAL, through RCAP, in coordination with ADB, will (a) assist States in the preparation and deposit of instruments of accession to the New York Convention; (b) review existing or draft new arbitration laws based on the Model Law, including ensuring conformity with the provisions of the New York Convention; and (c) deliver capacity-building through tailored training programmes for stakeholders (government and judicial officials, arbitration practitioners as well as scholars).

In that context, RCAP co-hosted with the Government of the Republic of Fiji and ADB, the South Pacific International Arbitration Conference. The conference discussed the positive developmental impact of international arbitration reform in the South Pacific. One hundred and twenty-three participants including Government officials, policymakers, development partners, judges, law practitioners and private

sector representatives from 25 jurisdictions attended the conference (Nadi, Fiji, 12–13 February 2018).

(e) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ("APEC"):

(i) Co-hosted and participated at the Friends of the Chair Group on Strengthening Economic and Legal Infrastructure Workshop on: "The Use of Modern Technology for Dispute Resolution and Electronic Agreement Management (particularly ODR)" (Port Moresby, 3–4 March 2018);

(ii) Took part in the Ease of Doing Business Project ("EoDB project") in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea in Viet Nam:

a. Presented on enforcing contracts and the relevance of UNCITRAL texts, including CISG, e-CC, the New York Convention and the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration at the 2017 Ease of Doing Business Workshop (Hanoi, 27 June 2017);

b. Met with the Central Institute for Economic Management under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam, the Supreme People's Court of Viet Nam and Vietnam International Arbitration Centre to discuss the status and possible improvement in the field of enforcing contracts and dispute settlement (Hanoi, 26 June 2017);

c. Met with the Federal Court of Australia, Personal Property Securities Register under the Australia Financial Security (Sydney, Australia, 29 June 2017);

d. Presented on the Model Law on Secured Transactions at the APEC EoDB Wrap-up Seminar (Seoul, 22 November 2017);

(f) Greater Tumen Initiative ("GTI"): presented on UNCITRAL legal texts for e-commerce and paperless trade facilitation in Northeast Asia, highlighting the e-CC and the MLETR at the GTI Trade and Investment Cooperation Roundtable Meeting, co-organized by the GTI Secretariat, Jilin Provincial Government of China and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internat. Zusammenarbeit GmbH. The roundtable aimed to bring diverse stakeholders such as government agencies, international organizations, academics and the private sector to discuss the future direction and concerted actions of trade and investment cooperation in Northeast Asia (Changchun, China, 30–31 August 2017).

Supporting attendance of judges and government officials

7. The Regional Centre has supported attendance of government officials, legal officers and judges, from regional Least Developed Countries ("LDCs"), Landlocked Developing Countries ("LLDCs") and Small Island Developing States ("SIDCs"), to activities aimed at capacity-building:

(a) One delegate from the Attorney General's Department of Sri Lanka and one delegate from the Multilateral Trade Policy Division of the Foreign Trade Policy Department of Lao People's Democratic Republic, to attend the UNCITRAL Congress (Vienna, 4–6 July 2017);

(b) Two participants to attend the Annual Willem C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot, from the Royal University of Law and Economics, Cambodia and the Dagon University, Myanmar (Hong Kong, China, 11–18 March 2018).

Channel of communication between States

8. The Regional Centre has consolidated the function it serves on behalf of the UNCITRAL Secretariat as a channel of communication for non-legislative activities of the Commission between States in the region and UNCITRAL, setting up contact

points within governments in the region and engaging in regular consultations with government officials from Australia, Bahrain, China (including the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau), Fiji, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Viet Nam.

New treaty action and enactment of model laws

9. The status of adoption of UNCITRAL texts is regularly updated and available on the UNCITRAL website. It is also compiled annually in a note by the Secretariat entitled "Status of conventions and model laws" (for the Commission's fifty-first session, see A/CN.9/950). RCAP has, during the reporting period, monitored the progress towards, and has also assisted States in, the adoption of the following UNCITRAL texts, in consultation and with the support of staff of the UNCITRAL secretariat:

(a) In the area of dispute resolution:

(i) United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (New York, 2014): Australia signed the Convention on 18 July 2017;

(ii) UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985), with amendments as adopted in 2006: legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in Fiji;

(iii) UNCITRAL Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (2014): the following concluded agreements provide for investor-state arbitration under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, including the Transparency Rules:

a. The Australia-Peru Free Trade Agreement was signed on 12 February 2018. The UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules (including Transparency Rules) were provided as an option for ISDS in Article 8.20;

b. The Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Armenia for the Liberalisation, Promotion and Protection of Investment was signed on 14 February 2018. The UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules (including Transparency Rules) were provided as an option for ISDS in Article 24.4;

(b) In the area of electronic commerce:

United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005):

(i) Fiji acceded to the Convention on 7 June 2017; and

(ii) Sri Lanka passed on 18 October 2017 legislation incorporating substantive provisions of the e-CC.

(c) In the area of international sale of goods:

United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, (Vienna, 1980): Fiji acceded to the Convention on 7 June 2017.

Strengthening information, knowledge and statistics

10. In order to fulfil its assigned objective of strengthening information, knowledge and statistics through briefings, workshops, seminars, publications, social media, and information and communication technologies, including in regional languages, the Regional Centre has concluded the following activities:

(a) The continued broadcasting of regional website in regional languages, namely in Japanese and Korean, including through social media. The regional website has 702 resource materials;

(b) Compilation of selected UNCITRAL texts in Korean and English, entitled "United Nations Standards Towards the Harmonization and Modernization of International Commercial Law", in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea, to be made available online and in hard copies;

(c) Publication of the 2017–2018 Annual Asia-Pacific Report on ISDS and Transparency, through the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Asia-Pacific Transparency Observatory established with the Seoul National University Asia-Pacific Law Institute and KCAB, which surveyed transparency provisions and the application of UNCITRAL standards on transparency in investor-State dispute settlement in international investment agreements concluded by states in the Asia-Pacific. The publication is made available online at the RCAP website and updates will be monitored;

(d) Incheon Trade Law Digest (Issue 2 2017) featuring 8 research papers prepared by experts from the Asia-Pacific region in relation to study on UNCITRAL and UNCITRAL texts. Similar to Issue 1, the publication is made available online at the RCAP website.

National Coordination Committees

11. RCAP has continued its support to the UNCITRAL National Coordination Committees for Australia ("UNCCA"), India, and the Global Private Law Forum of Japan. The UNCITRAL National Coordination Committees are private sector initiatives aimed at disseminating international trade norms and coordinating national promotional activities, allowing the Regional Centre to allocate more resources to the dissemination of UNCITRAL texts in LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDCs in the region.

12. During the reporting period, the Regional Centre held the Third Annual UNCITRAL Australia Seminar with the UNCCA on 19 May 2017 in Canberra, which focused on the draft convention on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation being developed in Working Group II, on the enforcement of alternative dispute resolution outcomes, and the impact of the Secured Transactions Model Law developed by Working Group VI and its implications for Australia's personal property securities regime. A pre-recorded keynote address which focused on the adoption and implementation of existing UNCITRAL texts was delivered. The UNCCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Canberra for the establishment of an executive office on its campus until 2020.

Outreach

13. To expand the reach of its mandate, both with the hosting community and with the regional academia, the Regional Centre continued its national outreach and regional educational programmes to maintain regular dialogue with non-governmental organizations, local and national political stakeholders, other international organizations, academia, the media and the general public on various aspects of the RCAP, to enhance cooperation and community support, and increase awareness of UNCITRAL activities:

(a) For the national outreach programme, the Regional Centre has opened its doors to various visitors, including representatives of the Incheon Municipal Council, local students and interns from the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea. Various lectures have also been delivered to local students on UNCITRAL and its work, and attended various events coordinated with the United Nations offices in ROK;

(b) The Regional Centre has continued its support to international trade law moot competitions held in the region, namely:

(i) The 15th Vis East Moot, hosted by Vis East Moot Foundation Ltd. and the City University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong, China, 11–18 March 2018);

(ii) The 2nd ICC/KLRCA Vis Pre-Moot and AIAC YPG Conference through the Regional Centre's institutional support (Kuala Lumpur, 1–2 March 2018);

(c) Academic engagement was fostered by delivering public lectures at Universities in the region such as: the National University of Lao, Peking University, Beijing Normal University, Inha University, Incheon University, Kookmin University, the University of Macau, National Law University Delhi, the University of Western Australia, Wuhan University, the University of Hong Kong, the City University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Nagoya University, University of International Business and Economics, and Renmin University.

Resources and Funding

14. The Regional Centre is staffed with one professional, one programme assistant, one team assistant and two legal experts. During this reporting period, 15 interns were hosted at the Regional Centre. The core project budget allows for the occasional employment of experts and consultants. The Regional Centre relies on the annual financial contribution from the Incheon Metropolitan City to the Trust Fund for UNCITRAL Symposia to meet the cost of operation and programme. It further relies on the contribution of two non-reimbursable loans of legal experts by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea and by the Government of the Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China, both of which were extended.

15. According to article 13.3 of the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 18 November 2011 between the United Nations, the Ministry of Justice and the Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea regarding the operation and financial contribution to the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, the Incheon Metropolitan City extended its financial contribution over a 5-year period (2017–2021) for the operation of the Regional Centre, revising the annual contribution to USD $450,000.

16. It is expected that interest in UNCITRAL texts in the region will grow with additional requests for technical assistance. Such increase will call for a corresponding increase in available resources. Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals are actively encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, for the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the UNCITRAL Secretariat in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities. Additional contributions to the RCAP project from member States, or from interested private and public entities recommended by member States, are required to further respond to regional expectations.

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Coordination activities

Note by the Secretariat

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I. Introduction

1. In resolution 34/142 of 17 December 1979, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to place before the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law a report on the legal activities of international organizations in the field of international trade law, together with recommendations as to the steps to be taken by the Commission to fulfil its mandate of coordinating the activities of other organizations in the field.

2. In resolution 36/32 of 13 November 1981, the General Assembly endorsed various suggestions by the Commission to implement further its coordinating role in the field of international trade law.[1] Those suggestions included presenting, in addition to a general report of activities of international organizations, reports on specific areas of activity focusing on work already under way and areas where unification work was not under way but could appropriately be undertaken.[2]

3. This report, prepared in response to resolution 34/142 and in accordance with UNCITRAL's mandate,[3] provides information on the activities of other international organizations active in the field of international trade law in which the UNCITRAL secretariat has participated. Most of those activities have included provision of comments on documents drafted by those organizations and participation in various meetings (e.g. working groups, expert groups and plenary meetings) and conferences. The purpose of that participation has been to ensure coordination of the related legislative and rule-making activities of the different organizations, to share information and expertise and avoid duplication of work and of the texts resulting from that work.

II. Coordination activities

A. The International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the Hague Conference on Private International Law

International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (Unidroit)

4. The Secretariat attended the Unidroit Governing Council (Rome, 10–12 May 2017).

Hague Conference on Private International Law (HccH)

5. The Secretariat attended the Council on General Affairs and Policy (The Hague, the Netherlands, 13–15 March 2018) and participated in the third meeting of the Special Commission on the Judgments Project for the purposes of coordinating the work being undertaken by UNCITRAL firstly on recognition and enforcement of insolvency-related judgments, which draws on work being done by the HccH, and secondly on international settlement agreements resulting from mediation (The Hague, the Netherlands, 13–17 November 2016). The purpose of the participation was to ensure that there was no overlap or duplication in the instruments being developed by UNCITRAL and the HccH draft convention. The most recent drafts of the HccH draft convention were made available to UNCITRAL's working groups for the information of delegates.

Joint activities with Unidroit and HccH

6. The Commission will recall the report provided to its fiftieth session (A/72/17, paras. 333–335) concerning the preparation of a guidance document in the area of

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/36/17), paras. 93–101.
[2] Ibid., para. 100.
[3] See General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8.

international commercial contract law (with a focus on sales) approved by the Commission at its forty-ninth session.[4]

7. Individuals with expertise in the fields of international commercial contract law and private international law were approached to carry out the project; five experts have agreed to undertake the work. A first meeting was held in October 2017 to formally launch the project and the table of contents was agreed with chapters on the following topics: introduction; determination of the law applicable to international commercial contracts; substantive law of sales; recurring legal issues arising in connection with sales contracts; guidance for specific business sectors (optional).

8. The three secretariats have agreed to coordinate consultation with relevant stakeholders on the draft text before seeking comments from States and formal approval from their respective governing bodies.

9. The agreed timeline requires a first draft of the text to be available by the end of March 2018; circulation of the first draft to stakeholders by the end of May 2018; submission of a revised draft to the Unidroit Governing Council in March 2019 for consideration in May 2019; submission of a further revised draft to the HccH Council in March 2020 for approval; a further submission to the Unidroit Governing Council in May 2020 for formal approval; and formal adoption in the framework of the CISG 40th anniversary celebrations at UNCITRAL's fifty-third session in July 2020.

10. Further details of the project will be provided in an oral report to the Commission at the fifty-first session.

B. Other organizations

11. In addition to its participation in initiatives of Unidroit and HccH, the Secretariat undertook coordination activities with various other international organizations.

1. General

12. The Secretariat continued its participation in the Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity and took part (remote participation) in the annual meeting of the Cluster (Geneva, 17 November 2017) at which the main activities implemented by the Cluster in 2017 in the context of the United Nations "Delivering as One approach" were reviewed. Moreover, the discussion on follow-up actions in relation to the establishment of a Global Multi Donor Trust Fund on Trade and Productive Capacity, in particular actions concerning an appropriate communication strategy to approach potential donors, further progressed (see also A/CN.9/908, para. 11).

13. The Secretariat was represented at the annual meeting of the United States State Department Advisory Committee on Private International Law (Washington, D.C., 31 October 2017).

Rule of Law

14. The UNCITRAL secretariat remained engaged in the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on Financing for Development (FfD), convened by the Secretary-General to: (a) review progress in implementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA); and (b) advise the intergovernmental follow-up process thereon. In this context, the Secretariat contributed to tracking the progress of the implementation of the AAAA sustainable development goals as they are relevant to the work of UNCITRAL through provision of material for inclusion in the Annex to the 2018 IATF report.[5]

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[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), para. 281.

[5] https://developmentfinance.un.org/iatf-2018-report.

15. The UNCITRAL secretariat contributed to the 2017 report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities.[6]

2. APEC-related

16. The Secretariat continued its cooperation with APEC and was granted a three-year guest status at its Economic Committee (EC) in 2017. The Secretariat participated in the following meetings:

(a) The EC and the Friends of the Chair (FoTC) on Strengthening Economic Legal Infrastructure (SELI);

(b) APEC Workshop on Starting a Business: Simplified Business Registration and Incorporation according to International Best Practices (Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, 24 August 2017);

(c) APEC Workshop on the Use of Modern Technology for Dispute Resolution and Electronic Agreement Management (particularly Online Dispute Resolution) (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 3–4 March 2018);

(d) APEC Workshop on Secured Transactions: Best Practices for Dynamic Business Growth (21–22 March 2018); and

(e) First Investment Experts' Group Meeting (IEG1, 2018) (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 1–2 March 2018).

3. Subject-specific activities

(a) Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)

17. The Secretariat continued to encourage participation and dialogue in respect of UNCITRAL's work on micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs, Working Group I) through:

(a) Participation at a joint conference of the European Commerce Registers' Forum (ECRF) and the Corporate Registers' Forum (CRF), presenting the latest developments in UNCITRAL work on business registration (Cardiff, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 10–13 May 2017); and

(b) A presentation on the deliberations of Working Group I at an academic conference on simplified business registration and at a workshop for International Business Law students (Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands, 24–25 November 2017).

(b) Procurement

18. The Secretariat reviewed or provided comments on:

(a) The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) survey of procurement regimes of four ASEAN countries against international best practices using the OECD Government procurement Taxonomy;

(b) A draft European Commission Recommendation on the professionalization of public procurement[7] and a draft of the European Commission's staff working document on a toolbox of good practices accompanying the Recommendation;[8] and

(c) IACA reference materials related to training on anticorruption safeguards in the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement.

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[6] See document A/72/268 and paras. 4 and 44 therein as related to UNCITRAL.

[7] Available in the final form at https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32017H1805.

[8] Available in the final form at http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2017/EN/SWD-2017-327-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF.

(c) Dispute settlement

19. At its fiftieth session, in 2017, the Commission emphasized the need for the work of Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform to include engagement with diverse stakeholders, including intergovernmental organs and organizations such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization, OECD, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes and the Permanent Court of Arbitration.[9] In addition, the Commission agreed that the ongoing work of relevant international organizations in investment treaty reform should be taken into account.[10]

20. Accordingly, the Secretariat has engaged in consultations with the above organizations on an ongoing basis, and has participated in a number of events, including:

(a) World Economic Forum (WEF) conference on multilateral investment treaties (Bern, Switzerland, 19 June 2017);

(b) 7th South China In-house Counsel Forum organized by Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA), theme: "Belt & Road: Chinese Companies and Investment Arbitration" (29 June 2017, Shenzhen, China);

(c) UNCTAD High-level IIA Conference (9–11 October 2017, Geneva);

(d) OECD Freedom of Investment Roundtable 27 (17 October 2017, Paris);

(e) International Chamber of Commerce-UNCITRAL-CIDS consultation with investors on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform (16 November 2017, Paris);

(f) OECD conference on International investment agreements and investor-State dispute settlement (12 March 2018, Paris); and

(g) 4th Asia FDI Forum, on Special Economic Zones and Investment Policy, organised by the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, WEF and the Chinese University of Hong Kong (22–23 March 2018, Hong Kong SAR, China).

(d) Electronic commerce

21. The Secretariat attended a Special session on operationalising the e-CMR Protocol convened by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party on Road Transport to illustrate the possible relevance of the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records for the implementation of electronic consignment notes issued under the e-CMR protocol (Geneva, 4 April 2018).

(e) Privately financed infrastructure projects

22. In light of the Commission's decision, at its forty-ninth session (2016), that the Secretariat should consider updating where necessary all or parts of the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects, involving experts,[11] the Secretariat has engaged in consultations with the World Bank and regional development banks, UNECE and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, among others, on an ongoing basis, and has provided written commentary on draft policy texts, including:

(a) UNECE draft "Standard on Zero Tolerance to Corruption in PPP Procurement" prepared for the "International Forum Implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through effective, people-first Public-Private Partnerships", during the year since the Commission's fiftieth session; and

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[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/72/17), para. 251.

[10] Ibid, para. 264.

[11] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), paras. 359–362.

(b) World Bank Draft Guidelines for the Development of a Policy for Managing Unsolicited Proposals in Infrastructure Projects (June 2017).

(f) Security interests

23. The Secretariat continued its coordination and cooperation with a number of international and regional organizations active in the area of security interests. It continued its collaboration with the World Bank in providing legislative technical assistance to States undertaking secured transactions reform (Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia, 26–30 June 2017 and Bahrain, 11–14 September 2017). It also met with representatives of the European Commission and took part in a joint expert teleconference with a view to ensuring a coordinated approach to the law applicable to the third-party effects of transactions in receivables and securities.

24. In response to a request by Working Group VI, which is currently preparing a draft Practice Guide to the Model Law on Secured Transactions, the Secretariat is in contact with the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, as well as other relevant international organizations, to share information about the Model Law and to seek coordination with respect to regulatory aspects, particularly financial regulations, in the implementation of the Model Law.

(g) Insolvency

25. The Secretariat participated on a panel to discuss a report on rescue of business in insolvency law and its relationship to the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Insolvency Law, which was launched at the European Law Institute's Annual Conference (Vienna, 6 September 2017).

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Status of conventions and model laws

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its thirteenth session, in 1980, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) decided[1] that it would consider, at each of its sessions, the status of conventions that were the outcome of work carried out by it.

2. The present note sets forth the status of the conventions and model laws emanating from the work of the Commission. It also shows the status of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958),[2] which, although adopted prior to the establishment of the Commission, is closely related to the work of the Commission in the area of international commercial arbitration.

3. Technical cooperation and assistance activities aimed at promoting the use and adoption of its texts are priorities for UNCITRAL pursuant to a decision taken at its twentieth session (1987).[3] The Secretariat monitors adoption of model laws and conventions.

4. This note indicates the changes since 24 April 2017, when the last annual report in this series (A/CN.9/909) was issued. The information contained herein is current up to 20 April 2018. Authoritative information on the status of the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, including historical status information, may be obtained by consulting the United Nations Treaty Collection (http://treaties.un.org), and the information on conventions in this note and on the UNCITRAL website (www.uncitral.org) is based on that information. Readers may also wish to contact the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (tel.: (+1-212) 963-5047; fax: (+1-212) 963-3693; email: treaty@un.org). Information on the status of model laws is updated on the website whenever the Secretariat is informed of a new enactment.

5. This note covers the following texts, incorporating as indicated new treaty actions (the term "action" is used generically to denote the deposit of an instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance, accession, or signature in respect of a treaty, or

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/35/17), para. 163.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739, p. 3.
[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/42/17), para. 335.

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participation in a treaty as a result of an action to a related treaty, or the withdrawal or modification of a declaration or of a reservation) and enactments of Model Laws based on information received since the last report:

(a) In the area of sale of goods:

Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods (New York, 1974),[4] as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980 (Vienna).[5] New action by Czechia (withdrawal of declaration) 23 States parties; unamended: 30 States parties;

United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980).[6] New actions by Costa Rica (accession), Cameroon (accession), Fiji (accession), State of Palestine (accession), and Czechia (withdrawal of declaration); 89 States parties;

(b) In the area of dispute resolution:

Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958).[7] New actions by Cabo Verde (accession) and Sudan (accession); 159 States parties;

UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985),[8] with amendments as adopted in 2006.[9] New legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in Liechtenstein (2010), Qatar (2017) and Saudi Arabia (2012). New legislation based on the Model Law as amended in 2006 has been adopted in Jamaica (2017), South Africa (2017), and Fiji (2017);

UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation (2002).[10] New legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in Benin (2017), Burkina Faso (2017), Cameroon (2017), Central African Republic (2017), Chad (2017), Comoros (2017), Congo (2017), Côte d'Ivoire (2017), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2017), Equatorial Guinea (2017), Gabon (2017), Guinea (2017), Guinea-Bissau (2017), Mali (2017), Niger (2017), Senegal (2017), and Togo (2017);

United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (New York, 2014).[11] New actions by Benin (signature), Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (signature), Australia (signature) and Gambia (signature); 3 States parties;

(c) In the area of government contracting:

UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement (2011);[12]

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[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1511, No. 26119, p. 3. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. A.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1511, No. 26121, p. 99. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. A.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1489, No. 25567, p. 3. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. C.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739, p. 3. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. K.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/40/17), annex I. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. A.

[9] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.V.4. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. A.

[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/57/17), annex I. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. F.

[11] General Assembly resolution 69/116, annex. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. J.

[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/66/17), annex I. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. G.

(d) In the area of banking and payments:

United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (New York, 1988).[13] Five States parties:

UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers (1992):[14]

United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit (New York, 1995).[15] Eight States parties:

(e) In the area of security interests:

United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade (New York, 2001).[16] One State party:

UNCITRAL Model Law on Secured Transactions (2016):[17]

(f) In the area of insolvency:

UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (1997):[18]

(g) In the area of transport:

United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea (Hamburg, 1978).[19] Thirty-four States parties:

United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade (Vienna, 1991).[20] Four States parties:

United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Carriage of Goods Wholly or Partly by Sea (New York, 2008).[21] New action by Cameroon (ratification), 4 States parties:

(h) In the area of electronic commerce:

UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996).[22] New legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in Haiti (2015) and Sri Lanka (2017);

UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures (2001). New legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in Peru (signature):[23]

UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (2017):[24]

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[13] General Assembly resolution 43/165, annex. The Convention has not yet entered into force; it requires 10 States parties for entry into force. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. D.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/47/17), annex I. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. B.

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2169, No. 38030, p. 163. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. F.

[16] General Assembly resolution 56/81, annex. The Convention has not yet entered into force; it requires five States parties for entry into force. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. G.

[17] General Assembly resolution 71/136.

[18] General Assembly resolution 52/158, annex. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. D.

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1695, No. 29215, p. 3. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. B.

[20] *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade, Vienna, 2–19 April 1991* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.XI.3), part I, annex. The Convention has not yet entered into force; it requires five States parties for entry into force. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. E.

[21] General Assembly resolution 63/122, annex. The Convention has not yet entered into force; it requires 20 States parties for entry into force. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. I.

[22] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.V.4. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. C.

[23] General Assembly resolution 56/80, annex. For the complete status of this text, see part II, sect. E.

[24] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.17.V.5.

United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005).[25] New actions by Cameroon (accession) and Fiji (accession), 9 States parties.

6. Previous annual reports in this series also included chronological tables of actions for conventions. To avoid redundancy, this information can now be found on the UNCITRAL website.

I. Participation in conventions

A. Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods (New York, 1974), as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980 (Vienna)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Succession(§) or Participation under Article VIII or X of the Protocol of 11 April 1980(†)*	*Entry into force*
Argentina		19 July 1983(*)	1 August 1988
Belarus	14 June 1974	23 January 1997(*)	1 August 1997
Belgium		1 August 2008(*)	1 March 2009
Benin[a]		29 July 2011(*)	1 February 2012
Bosnia and Herzegovina[a]		12 January 1994(§)	6 March 1992
Brazil	14 June 1974		
Bulgaria	24 February 1975		
Burundi[a]		4 September 1998(*)	1 April 1999
Costa Rica	30 August 1974		
Côte d'Ivoire		1 February 2016(†)	1 September 2016
Cuba		2 November 1994(*)	1 June 1995
Czechia		30 September 1993(§)	1 January 1993
Dominican Republic[d]		30 July 2010(*)	1 February 2011
Egypt		6 December 1982(*)	1 August 1988
Ghana[a]	5 December 1974	7 October 1975	1 August 1988
Guinea		23 January 1991(*)	1 August 1991
Hungary	14 June 1974	16 June 1983(*)	1 August 1988
Liberia		16 September 2005(†)	1 April 2006
Mexico		21 January 1988(*)	1 August 1988
Mongolia	14 June 1974		
Montenegro[e]		6 August 2012(*)	1 March 2013
Nicaragua	13 May 1975		
Norway[a,c]	11 December 1975	20 March 1980	1 August 1988
Paraguay		18 August 2003(*)	1 March 2004

[25] General Assembly resolution 60/21, annex. For the complete status of this text, see part I, sect. H.

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(s) or Participation under Article VIII or X of the Protocol of 11 April 1980(p)	Entry into force
Poland	14 June 1974	19 May 1995[a]	1 December 1995
Republic of Moldova		28 August 1997[a]	1 March 1998
Romania		23 April 1992[a]	1 November 1992
Russian Federation	14 June 1974		
Serbia[a]		12 March 2001[s]	27 April 1992
Slovakia[b]		28 May 1993[s]	1 January 1993
Slovenia		2 August 1995[a]	1 March 1996
Uganda		12 February 1992[a]	1 September 1992
Ukraine[a]	14 June 1974	13 September 1993	1 April 1994
United States of America[b]		5 May 1994[a]	1 December 1994
Uruguay		1 April 1997[a]	1 November 1997
Zambia		6 June 1986[a]	1 August 1988

Parties (as amended by the Protocol of 1980): 23
Parties (unamended): 30

For information on which States listed above are Parties to the 1980 amending Protocol, consult the United Nations Treaty Collection, http://treaties.un.org.

[a] Party only to the unamended Convention.

[b] Upon accession to the Protocol, Czechoslovakia and the United States declared that, pursuant to article XII of the Protocol, they did not consider themselves bound by article I of the Protocol.

[c] Upon signature, Norway declared, and confirmed upon ratification, that, in accordance with article 34, the Convention would not govern contracts of sale where the seller and the buyer both had their relevant places of business within the territories of the Nordic States (i.e. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden).

[d] From 1 August 1988 to 31 January 2011, the Dominican Republic was a Party to the unamended Convention.

[e] From 3 June 2006 to 28 February 2013, Montenegro was a Party to the unamended Convention.

B. United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea (Hamburg, 1978)

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Aa) or Succession(s)	Entry into force
Albania		20 July 2006[a]	1 August 2007
Austria	30 April 1979	29 July 1993	1 August 1994
Barbados		2 February 1981[a]	1 November 1992
Botswana		16 February 1988[a]	1 November 1992
Brazil	31 March 1978		
Burkina Faso		14 August 1989[a]	1 November 1992
Burundi		4 September 1998[a]	1 October 1999
Cameroon		21 October 1993[a]	1 November 1994

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Aa) or Succession(d)	Entry into force
Chile	31 March 1978	9 July 1982	1 November 1992
Czechia[a]	2 June 1993	23 June 1995	1 July 1996
Democratic Republic of the Congo	19 April 1979		
Denmark	18 April 1979		
Dominican Republic		28 September 2007(a)	1 October 2008
Ecuador	31 March 1978		
Egypt	31 March 1978	23 April 1979	1 November 1992
Finland	18 April 1979		
France	18 April 1979		
Gambia		7 February 1996(a)	1 March 1997
Georgia		21 March 1996(a)	1 April 1997
Germany	31 March 1978		
Ghana	31 March 1978		
Guinea		23 January 1991(a)	1 November 1992
Holy See	31 March 1978		
Hungary	23 April 1979	5 July 1984	1 November 1992
Jordan		10 May 2001(a)	1 June 2002
Kazakhstan		18 June 2008(a)	1 July 2009
Kenya		31 July 1989(a)	1 November 1992
Lebanon		4 April 1983(a)	1 November 1992
Lesotho		26 October 1989(a)	1 November 1992
Liberia		16 September 2005(a)	1 October 2006
Madagascar	31 March 1978		
Malawi		18 March 1991(a)	1 November 1992
Mexico	31 March 1978		
Morocco		12 June 1981(a)	1 November 1992
Nigeria		7 November 1988(a)	1 November 1992
Norway	18 April 1979		
Pakistan	8 March 1979		
Panama	31 March 1978		
Paraguay		19 July 2005(a)	1 August 2006
Philippines	14 June 1978		
Portugal	31 March 1978		
Romania		7 January 1982(a)	1 November 1992
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		12 September 2000(a)	1 October 2001

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Aa) or Succession(d)	Entry into force
Senegal	31 March 1978	17 March 1986	1 November 1992
Sierra Leone	15 August 1978	7 October 1988	1 November 1992
Singapore	31 March 1978		
Slovakia	28 May 1993		
Sweden	18 April 1979		
Syrian Arab Republic		16 October 2002(a)	1 November 2003
Tunisia		15 September 1980(a)	1 November 1992
Uganda		6 July 1979(a)	1 November 1992
United Republic of Tanzania		24 July 1979(a)	1 November 1992
United States of America	30 April 1979		
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	31 March 1978		
Zambia		7 October 1991(a)	1 November 1992

Parties: 34

[a] Czechia declared that limits of carrier's liability in the territory of Czechia adhered to the provision of article 6 of the Convention.

C. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980)

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Aa) or Succession(d)	Entry into force
Albania		13 May 2009(a)	1 June 2010
Argentina[a]		19 July 1983(a)	1 January 1988
Armenia[a,b]		2 December 2008(a)	1 January 2010
Australia		17 March 1988(a)	1 April 1989
Austria	11 April 1980	29 December 1987	1 January 1989
Azerbaijan		3 May 2016(a)	1 June 2017
Bahrain		25 September 2013	1 October 2014
Belarus[a]		9 October 1989(a)	1 November 1990
Belgium		31 October 1996(a)	1 November 1997
Benin		29 July 2011(a)	1 August 2012
Bosnia and Herzegovina		12 January 1994(d)	6 March 1992
Brazil		4 March 2013(a)	1 April 2014
Bulgaria		9 July 1990(a)	1 August 1991
Burundi		4 September 1998(a)	1 October 1998

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)	Entry into force
Cameroon		11 October 2017(*)	1 November 2018
Canada		23 April 1991(*)	1 May 1992
Chile[a]	11 April 1980	7 February 1990	1 March 1991
China[a,b]	30 September 1981	11 December 1986(†)	1 January 1988
Colombia		10 July 2001(*)	1 August 2002
Congo		11 June 2014(*)	1 July 2015
Costa Rica		12 July 2017(*)	1 August 2018
Croatia		8 June 1998(§)	8 October 1991
Cuba		2 November 1994(*)	1 December 1995
Cyprus		7 March 2005(*)	1 April 2006
Czechia		30 September 1993(§)	1 January 1993
Denmark	26 May 1981	14 February 1989	1 March 1990
Dominican Republic		7 June 2010(*)	1 July 2011
Ecuador		27 January 1992(*)	1 February 1993
Egypt		6 December 1982(*)	1 January 1988
El Salvador		27 November 2006(*)	1 December 2007
Estonia		20 September 1993(*)	1 October 1994
Fiji		7 June 2017(*)	1 July 2018
Finland[a]	26 May 1981	15 December 1987	1 January 1989
France	27 August 1981	6 August 1982(†)	1 January 1988
Gabon		15 December 2004(*)	1 January 2006
Georgia		16 August 1994(*)	1 September 1995
Germany[c]	26 May 1981	21 December 1989	1 January 1991
Ghana	11 April 1980		
Greece		12 January 1998(*)	1 February 1999
Guinea		23 January 1991(*)	1 February 1992
Guyana		25 September 2014(*)	1 October 2015
Honduras		10 October 2002(*)	1 November 2003
Hungary	11 April 1980	16 June 1983	1 January 1988
Iceland[d]		10 May 2001(*)	1 June 2002
Iraq		5 March 1990(*)	1 April 1991
Israel		22 January 2002(*)	1 February 2003
Italy	30 September 1981	11 December 1986	1 January 1988
Japan		1 July 2008(*)	1 August 2009
Kyrgyzstan		11 May 1999(*)	1 June 2000
Latvia[a]		31 July 1997(*)	1 August 1998
Lebanon		21 November 2008(*)	1 December 2009

State	Signature	Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a) or Succession(d)	Entry into force
Lesotho	18 June 1981	18 June 1981	1 January 1988
Liberia		16 September 2005(a)	1 October 2006
Lithuania		18 January 1995(a)	1 February 1996
Luxembourg		30 January 1997(a)	1 February 1998
Madagascar		24 September 2014(a)	1 October 2015
Mauritania		20 August 1999(a)	1 September 2000
Mexico		29 December 1987(a)	1 January 1989
Mongolia		31 December 1997(a)	1 January 1999
Montenegro		23 October 2006(d)	3 June 2006
Netherlands	29 May 1981	13 December 1990(a)	1 January 1992
New Zealand		22 September 1994(a)	1 October 1995
Norway[d]	26 May 1981	20 July 1988	1 August 1989
Paraguay[a]		13 January 2006(a)	1 February 2007
Peru		25 March 1999(a)	1 April 2000
Poland	28 September 1981	19 May 1995	1 June 1996
Republic of Korea		17 February 2004(a)	1 March 2005
Republic of Moldova		13 October 1994(a)	1 November 1995
Romania		22 May 1991(a)	1 June 1992
Russian Federation[a]		16 August 1990(a)	1 September 1991
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines[b]		12 September 2000(a)	1 October 2001
San Marino		22 February 2012(a)	1 March 2013
Serbia		12 March 2001(d)	27 April 1992
Singapore[b]	11 April 1980	16 February 1995	1 March 1996
Slovakia[b]		28 May 1993(d)	1 January 1993
Slovenia		7 January 1994(d)	25 June 1991
Spain		24 July 1990(a)	1 August 1991
State of Palestine		29 December 2017(a)	1 January 2019
Sweden[d]	26 May 1981	15 December 1987	1 January 1989
Switzerland		21 February 1990(a)	1 March 1991
Syrian Arab Republic		19 October 1982(a)	1 January 1988
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		22 November 2006(d)	17 November 1991
Turkey		7 July 2010(a)	1 August 2011
Uganda		12 February 1992(a)	1 March 1993
Ukraine[a]		3 January 1990(a)	1 February 1991

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(‡)	Entry into force
United States of America[b]	31 August 1981	11 December 1986	1 January 1988
Uruguay		25 January 1999(*)	1 February 2000
Uzbekistan		27 November 1996(*)	1 December 1997
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	28 September 1981		
Viet Nam[a]		18 December 2015(*)	1 January 2017
Zambia		6 June 1986(*)	1 January 1988

Parties: 89

[a] This State declared, in accordance with articles 12 and 96 of the Convention, that any provision of article 11, article 29 or Part II of the Convention that allowed a contract of sale or its modification or termination by agreement or any offer, acceptance or other indication of intention to be made in any form other than in writing, would not apply where any party had his place of business in its territory.

[b] This State declared that it would not be bound by paragraph 1 (b) of article 1.

[c] Upon accession, Canada declared that, in accordance with article 93 of the Convention, the Convention would extend to Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories. In a declaration received on 9 April 1992, Canada extended the application of the Convention to Quebec and Saskatchewan. In a notification received on 29 June 1992, Canada extended the application of the Convention to the Yukon Territory. In a notification received on 18 June 2003, Canada extended the application of the Convention to the Territory of Nunavut.

[d] Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden declared that the Convention would not apply to contracts of sale or to their formation where the parties have their places of business in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway or Sweden.

[e] Upon ratifying the Convention, Germany declared that it would not apply article 1, paragraph 1 (b) in respect of any State that had made a declaration that that State would not apply article 1, paragraph 1 (b).

D. United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (New York, 1988)

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(‡)
Canada	7 December 1989	
Gabon		15 December 2004(*)
Guinea		23 January 1991(*)
Honduras		8 August 2001(*)
Liberia		16 September 2005(*)
Mexico		11 September 1992(*)
Russian Federation	30 June 1990	
United States of America	29 June 1990	

Parties: 5

E. United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade (Vienna, 1991)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)*
Egypt		6 April 1999(*)
France	15 October 1991	
Gabon		15 December 2004(*)
Georgia		21 March 1996(*)
Mexico	19 April 1991	
Paraguay		19 July 2005(*)
Philippines	19 April 1991	
Spain	19 April 1991	
United States of America	30 April 1992	

Parties: 4

F. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit (New York, 1995)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)*	*Entry into force*
Belarus	3 December 1996	23 January 2002	1 February 2003
Ecuador		18 June 1997(*)	1 January 2000
El Salvador	5 September 1997	31 July 1998	1 January 2000
Gabon		15 December 2004(*)	1 January 2006
Kuwait		28 October 1998(*)	1 January 2000
Liberia		16 September 2005(*)	1 October 2006
Panama	9 July 1997	21 May 1998	1 January 2000
Tunisia		8 December 1998(*)	1 January 2000
United States of America	11 December 1997		

Parties: 8

G. United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade (New York, 2001)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)*
Liberia		16 September 2005(*)
Luxembourg[a]	12 June 2002	
Madagascar	24 September 2003	
United States of America	30 December 2003	

Party: 1

It should be noted that the principles of the Convention were incorporated into the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions (2007).[26] Thus, States that substantially implement the recommendations of the Guide have, at the same time, introduced the principles of the Convention into their domestic law.

[a] Upon signature, Luxembourg lodged the following declaration:
"Pursuant to article 39 of the Convention, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg declares that it does not wish to be bound by chapter V, which contains autonomous conflict-of-laws rules that allow too wide an application to laws other than those of the assignor and that moreover are difficult to reconcile with the Rome Convention. The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, pursuant to article 42, paragraph 1 (c), of the Convention, will be bound by the priority rules set forth in section III of the annex, namely those based on the time of the contract of assignment."

H. United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 2005)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)*	*Entry into force*
Cameroon		11 October 2017(*)	1 May 2018
Central African Republic	27 February 2006		
China	6 July 2006		
Colombia	27 September 2007		
Congo		28 January 2014(*)	1 August 2014
Dominican Republic		2 August 2012(*)	1 March 2013
Fiji		7 June 2017(*)	1 January 2018
Honduras	16 January 2008	15 June 2010	1 March 2013
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	26 September 2007		
Lebanon	22 May 2006		
Madagascar	19 September 2006		
Montenegro	27 September 2007	23 September 2014	1 April 2015
Panama	25 September 2007		
Paraguay	26 March 2007		
Philippines	25 September 2007		
Republic of Korea	15 January 2008		
Russian Federation[b]	25 April 2007	6 January 2014(‡)	1 August 2014
Saudi Arabia	12 November 2007		
Senegal	7 April 2006		
Sierra Leone	21 September 2006		
Singapore[a]	6 July 2006	7 July 2010	1 March 2013
Sri Lanka[c]	6 July 2006	7 July 2015	1 February 2016

Parties: 9

[26] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.V.12.

Information on jurisdictions enacting at the national level substantive provisions of the Convention is included in the status information for the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996) (see part II, sect. C).

[a] Upon ratification, Singapore declared: The Convention shall not apply to electronic communications relating to any contract for the sale or other disposition of immovable property, or any interest in such property. The Convention shall also not apply in respect of (i) the creation or execution of a will; or (ii) the creation, performance or enforcement of an indenture, declaration of trust or power of attorney, that may be contracted for in any contract governed by the Convention.

[b] Upon acceptance, the Russian Federation declared:

1. In accordance with article 19, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the Russian Federation will apply the Convention when the parties to the international contract have agreed that it applies.

2. In accordance with article 19, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Russian Federation will not apply the Convention to transactions for which a notarized form or State registration is required under Russian law or to transactions for the sale of goods whose transfer across the Customs Union border is either prohibited or restricted.

3. The Russian Federation understands the international contracts covered by the Convention to mean civil law contracts involving foreign citizens or legal entities, or a foreign element.

[c] Upon ratification, Sri Lanka declared: In accordance with Articles 21 and 19 (para. 2) of the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts, the Convention shall not apply to electronic communications or transactions specifically excluded under Section 23 of the Electronic Transactions Act No. 19 of 2006, of Sri Lanka.

I. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Carriage of Goods Wholly or Partly by Sea (New York, 2008)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Aa) or Succession(d)*
Armenia	29 September 2009	
Cameroon	29 September 2009	11 October 2017
Congo	23 September 2009	28 January 2014
Democratic Republic of the Congo	23 September 2010	
Denmark	23 September 2009	
France	23 September 2009	
Gabon	23 September 2009	
Ghana	23 September 2009	
Greece	23 September 2009	
Guinea	23 September 2009	
Guinea-Bissau	24 September 2013	
Luxembourg	31 August 2010	
Madagascar	25 September 2009	
Mali	26 October 2009	
Netherlands	23 September 2009	
Niger	22 October 2009	
Nigeria	23 September 2009	
Norway	23 September 2009	
Poland	23 September 2009	

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)
Senegal	23 September 2009	
Spain	23 September 2009	19 January 2011
Sweden	20 July 2011	
Switzerland	23 September 2009	
Togo	23 September 2009	17 July 2012
United States of America	23 September 2009	

Parties: 4

J. United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (New York, 2014)

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)	Entry into Force
Australia	18 July 2017		
Belgium	15 September 2015		
Benin	10 July 2017		
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	16 April 2018		
Canada	17 March 2015	12 December 2016	18 October 2017
Congo	30 September 2015		
Finland	17 March 2015		
France	17 March 2015		
Gabon	29 September 2015		
Gambia	20 September 2017		
Germany	17 March 2015		
Iraq	13 February 2017		
Italy	19 May 2015		
Luxembourg	15 September 2015		
Madagascar	1 October 2016		
Mauritius	17 March 2015	5 June 2015	18 October 2017
Sweden	17 March 2015		
Switzerland	27 March 2015	18 April 2017	18 October 2017
Syrian Arab Republic	24 March 2015		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	17 March 2015		
United States of America	17 March 2015		

Parties: 3

K. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)*	*Entry into force*
Afghanistan[a,c]		30 November 2004(*)	28 February 2005
Albania		27 June 2001(*)	25 September 2001
Algeria[a,c]		7 February 1989(*)	8 May 1989
Andorra		19 June 2015	17 September 2015
Angola		6 March 2017	4 June 2017
Antigua and Barbuda[a,c]		2 February 1989(*)	3 May 1989
Argentina[a,c]	26 August 1958	14 March 1989	12 June 1989
Armenia[a,c]		29 December 1997(*)	29 March 1998
Australia		26 March 1975(*)	24 June 1975
Austria		2 May 1961(*)	31 July 1961
Azerbaijan		29 February 2000(*)	29 May 2000
Bahamas		20 December 2006(*)	20 March 2007
Bahrain[a,c]		6 April 1988(*)	5 July 1988
Bangladesh		6 May 1992(*)	4 August 1992
Barbados[a,c]		16 March 1993(*)	14 June 1993
Belarus[b]	29 December 1958	15 November 1960	13 February 1961
Belgium[a]	10 June 1958	18 August 1975	16 November 1975
Benin		16 May 1974(*)	14 August 1974
Bhutan[a,c]		25 September 2014(*)	24 December 2014
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		28 April 1995(*)	27 July 1995
Bosnia and Herzegovina[a,c,§]		1 September 1993(§)	6 March 1992
Botswana[a,c]		20 December 1971(*)	19 March 1972
Brazil		7 June 2002(*)	5 September 2002
Brunei Darussalam[a]		25 July 1996(*)	23 October 1996
Bulgaria[a,b]	17 December 1958	10 October 1961	8 January 1962
Burkina Faso		23 March 1987(*)	21 June 1987
Burundi[c]		23 June 2014(*)	21 September 2014
Cabo Verde		22 March 2018(*)	20 June 2018
Cambodia		5 January 1960(*)	4 April 1960
Cameroon		19 February 1988(*)	19 May 1988
Canada[d]		12 May 1986(*)	10 August 1986
Central African Republic[a,c]		15 October 1962(*)	13 January 1963
Chile		4 September 1975(*)	3 December 1975
China[a,c,b]		22 January 1987(*)	22 April 1987

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(*), Acceptance(2) or Succession(3)	Entry into force
Colombia		25 September 1979(*)	24 December 1979
Comoros		28 April 2015	27 July 2015
Cook Islands		12 January 2009(*)	12 April 2009
Costa Rica	10 June 1958	26 October 1987	24 January 1988
Côte d'Ivoire		1 February 1991(*)	2 May 1991
Croatia[a,c]		26 July 1993(3)	8 October 1991
Cuba[a,c]		30 December 1974(*)	30 March 1975
Cyprus[a,c]		29 December 1980(*)	29 March 1981
Czechia[a,b]		30 September 1993(3)	1 January 1993
Democratic Republic of the Congo		5 November 2014(*)	3 February 2015
Denmark[a,c,f]		22 December 1972(*)	22 March 1973
Djibouti[a,c]		14 June 1983(3)	27 June 1977
Dominica		28 October 1988(*)	26 January 1989
Dominican Republic		11 April 2002(*)	10 July 2002
Ecuador[a,c]	17 December 1958	3 January 1962	3 April 1962
Egypt		9 March 1959(*)	7 June 1959
El Salvador	10 June 1958	26 February 1998	27 May 1998
Estonia		30 August 1993(*)	28 November 1993
Fiji		27 September 2010(*)	26 December 2010
Finland	29 December 1958	19 January 1962	19 April 1962
France[a]	25 November 1958	26 June 1959	24 September 1959
Gabon		15 December 2006(*)	15 March 2007
Georgia		2 June 1994(*)	31 August 1994
Germany	10 June 1958	30 June 1961	28 September 1961
Ghana		9 April 1968(*)	8 July 1968
Greece[a,c]		16 July 1962(*)	14 October 1962
Guatemala[a,c]		21 March 1984(*)	19 June 1984
Guinea		23 January 1991(*)	23 April 1991
Guyana		25 September 2014(*)	24 December 2014
Haiti		5 December 1983(*)	4 March 1984
Holy See[a,c]		14 May 1975(*)	12 August 1975
Honduras		3 October 2000(*)	1 January 2001
Hungary[a,c]		5 March 1962(*)	3 June 1962
Iceland		24 January 2002(*)	24 April 2002
India[a,c]	10 June 1958	13 July 1960	11 October 1960
Indonesia[a,c]		7 October 1981(*)	5 January 1982

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(a), Approval(A), Acceptance(Z) or Succession(d)	Entry into force
Iran (Islamic Republic of)[a, c]		15 October 2001[A]	13 January 2002
Ireland[a]		12 May 1981[A]	10 August 1981
Israel	10 June 1958	5 January 1959	7 June 1959
Italy		31 January 1969[A]	1 May 1969
Jamaica[a, c]		10 July 2002[A]	8 October 2002
Japan[a]		20 June 1961[A]	18 September 1961
Jordan	10 June 1958	15 November 1979	13 February 1980
Kazakhstan		20 November 1995[A]	18 February 1996
Kenya[a]		10 February 1989[A]	11 May 1989
Kuwait[a]		28 April 1978[A]	27 July 1978
Kyrgyzstan		18 December 1996[A]	18 March 1997
Lao People's Democratic Republic		17 June 1998[A]	15 September 1998
Latvia		14 April 1992[A]	13 July 1992
Lebanon[a]		11 August 1998[A]	9 November 1998
Lesotho		13 June 1989[A]	11 September 1989
Liberia		16 September 2005[A]	15 December 2005
Liechtenstein[a]		7 July 2011[A]	5 October 2011
Lithuania[b]		14 March 1995[A]	12 June 1995
Luxembourg[a]	11 November 1958	9 September 1983	8 December 1983
Madagascar[a, c]		16 July 1962[A]	14 October 1962
Malaysia[a, c]		5 November 1985[A]	3 February 1986
Mali		8 September 1994[A]	7 December 1994
Malta[a, c]		22 June 2000[A]	20 September 2000
Marshall Islands		21 December 2006[A]	21 March 2007
Mauritania		30 January 1997[A]	30 April 1997
Mauritius		19 June 1996[A]	17 September 1996
Mexico		14 April 1971[A]	13 July 1971
Monaco[a, c]	31 December 1958	2 June 1982	31 August 1982
Mongolia[a, c]		24 October 1994[A]	22 January 1995
Montenegro[a, c, f]		23 October 2006[d]	3 June 2006
Morocco[a]		12 February 1959[A]	7 June 1959
Mozambique[a]		11 June 1998[A]	9 September 1998
Myanmar		16 April 2013[A]	15 July 2013
Nepal[a, c]		4 March 1998[A]	2 June 1998
Netherlands[a, c]	10 June 1958	24 April 1964	23 July 1964
New Zealand[a]		6 January 1983[A]	6 April 1983

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(+), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)	Entry into force
Nicaragua		24 September 2003(*)	23 December 2003
Niger		14 October 1964(*)	12 January 1965
Nigeria[a,c]		17 March 1970(*)	15 June 1970
Norway[a,c]		14 March 1961(*)	12 June 1961
Oman		25 February 1999(*)	26 May 1999
Pakistan[a]	30 December 1958	14 July 2005	12 October 2005
Panama		10 October 1984(*)	8 January 1985
Paraguay		8 October 1997(*)	6 January 1998
Peru		7 July 1988(*)	5 October 1988
Philippines[a,c]	10 June 1958	6 July 1967	4 October 1967
Poland[a,c]	10 June 1958	3 October 1961	1 January 1962
Portugal[a]		18 October 1994(*)	16 January 1995
Qatar		30 December 2002(*)	30 March 2003
Republic of Korea[a,c]		8 February 1973(*)	9 May 1973
Republic of Moldova[a,c]		18 September 1998(*)	17 December 1998
Romania[a,b,c]		13 September 1961(*)	12 December 1961
Russian Federation[b]	29 December 1958	24 August 1960	22 November 1960
Rwanda		31 October 2008	29 January 2009
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines[a,c]		12 September 2000(*)	11 December 2000
San Marino		17 May 1979(*)	15 August 1979
Sao Tome and Principe		20 November 2012(*)	18 February 2013
Saudi Arabia[a]		19 April 1994(*)	18 July 1994
Senegal		17 October 1994(*)	15 January 1995
Serbia[a,c,i]		12 March 2001(§)	27 April 1992
Singapore[a]		21 August 1986(*)	19 November 1986
Slovakia[a,b]		28 May 1993(§)	1 January 1993
Slovenia[i]		6 July 1992(§)	25 June 1991
South Africa		3 May 1976(*)	1 August 1976
Spain		12 May 1977(*)	10 August 1977
Sri Lanka	30 December 1958	9 April 1962	8 July 1962
State of Palestine		2 January 2015(*)	2 April 2015
Sudan		26 March 2018(*)	24 June 2018
Sweden	23 December 1958	28 January 1972	27 April 1972
Switzerland	29 December 1958	1 June 1965	30 August 1965
Syrian Arab Republic		9 March 1959(*)	7 June 1959
Tajikistan[a,c]		14 August 2012(*)	12 November 2012

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession(*), Approval(†), Acceptance(‡) or Succession(§)	Entry into force
Thailand		21 December 1959[*]	20 March 1960
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia[a, c]		10 March 1994[§]	17 November 1991
Trinidad and Tobago[a, c]		14 February 1966[*]	15 May 1966
Tunisia[a, c]		17 July 1967[*]	15 October 1967
Turkey[a, c]		2 July 1992[*]	30 September 1992
Uganda[a]		12 February 1992[*]	12 May 1992
Ukraine[b]	29 December 1958	10 October 1960	8 January 1961
United Arab Emirates		21 August 2006[*]	19 November 2006
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[a, g]		24 September 1975[§]	23 December 1975
United Republic of Tanzania[a]		13 October 1964[*]	11 January 1965
United States of America[a, c]		30 September 1970[§]	29 December 1970
Uruguay		30 March 1983[*]	28 June 1983
Uzbekistan		7 February 1996[*]	7 May 1996
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)[a, c]		8 February 1995[*]	9 May 1995
Viet Nam[a, b, c]		12 September 1995[*]	11 December 1995
Zambia		14 March 2002[*]	12 June 2002
Zimbabwe		29 September 1994[*]	28 December 1994

Parties: 159

Declarations or other notifications pursuant to article I(3) and article X(1)

[a] This State will apply the Convention only to recognition and enforcement of awards made in the territory of another contracting State.

[b] With regard to awards made in the territory of non-contracting States, this State will apply the Convention only to the extent to which those States grant reciprocal treatment.

[c] This State will apply the Convention only to differences arising out of legal relationships, whether contractual or not, that are considered commercial under the national law.

[d] Canada declared that it would apply the Convention only to differences arising out of legal relationships, whether contractual or not, that were considered commercial under the laws of Canada, except in the case of the Province of Quebec, where the law did not provide for such limitation.

[e] On 24 April 1964, the Netherlands declared that the Convention shall apply to the Netherlands Antilles.

[f] On 10 February 1976, Denmark declared that the Convention shall apply to the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

[g] On 24 February 2014, the United Kingdom submitted a notification to extend territorial application of the Convention to the British Virgin Islands. For the following territories, the United Kingdom has submitted notifications extending territorial application and declaring that the Convention shall apply only to the recognition and enforcement of awards made in the territory of another Contracting State: Gibraltar (24 September 1975); Isle of Man (22 February 1979); Bermuda (14 November 1979); Cayman Islands (26 November 1980); Guernsey (19 April 1985); Bailiwick of Jersey (28 May 2002).

[h] Upon resumption of sovereignty over Hong Kong on 1 July 1997, the Government of China extended the territorial application of the Convention to Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China, subject to the statement originally made by China upon accession to the

Convention. On 19 July 2007, China declared that the Convention shall apply to the Macao Special Administrative Region of China, subject to the statement originally made by China upon accession to the Convention.

Reservations or other notifications

[1] This State formulated a reservation with regards to retroactive application of the Convention.
[2] This State formulated a reservation with regards to the application of the Convention in cases concerning immovable property.

II. Enactments of model laws[27]

A. UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985), with amendments as adopted in 2006

7. Legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in 80 States in a total of 111 jurisdictions:

Armenia (2006); Australia (2010[a,c]), in Australian Capital Territory (2017[a]), New South Wales (2010[a]), Northern Territory (2011[a]), Queensland (2013[a]), South Australia (2011[a]), Tasmania (2011[a]), Victoria (2011[a]), and Western Australia (2012[a]); Austria (2006); Azerbaijan (1999); Bahrain (2015); Bangladesh (2001); Belarus (1999); Belgium (2013[a]); Bhutan (2013[a]); Brunei Darussalam (2009[a]); Bulgaria (2002[a]); Cambodia (2006); Canada (1986), in Alberta (1986), British Columbia (1986), Manitoba (1986), New Brunswick (1986), Newfoundland and Labrador (1986), Northwest Territories (1986), Nova Scotia (1986), Nunavut (1999), Ontario (1987), Prince Edward Island (1986), Quebec (1986), Saskatchewan (1988), and Yukon (1986); Chile (2004); China, in Hong Kong, China (2010[b,c]) and Macao, China (1998); Costa Rica (2011[a]); Croatia (2001); Cyprus (1987); Denmark (2005); Dominican Republic (2008); Egypt (1994); Estonia (2006); Fiji (2017[a]); Georgia (2009[a]); Germany (1998); Greece (1999); Guatemala (1995); Honduras (2000); Hungary (1994); India (1996); Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1997); Ireland (2010[b,c]); Jamaica (2017[a]); Japan (2003); Jordan (2001); Kenya (1995); Liechtenstein (2010); Lithuania (2012[b,c]); Madagascar (1998); Malaysia (2005); Maldives (2013); Malta (1996); Mauritius (2008[a]); Mexico (1993); Mongolia (2017[a]); Montenegro (2015); Myanmar (2016); New Zealand (2007[b,c]); Nicaragua (2005); Nigeria (1990); Norway (2004); Oman (1997); Paraguay (2002); Peru (2008[b,c]); Philippines (2004); Poland (2005); Qatar (2017); Republic of Korea (2016[b,c]); Russian Federation (1993); Rwanda (2008[a]); Saudi Arabia (2017); Serbia (2006); Singapore (1994[d]); Slovakia (2014); Slovenia (2008[a]); South Africa (2017[a]); Spain (2003); Sri Lanka (1995); Thailand (2002); the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2006); Tunisia (1993); Turkey (2001); Turkmenistan (2016); Uganda (2000); Ukraine (1994); United Kingdom, in Bermuda (1993[b]), British Virgin Islands (2013[b,c]), and Scotland (1990); United States, in California (1988), Connecticut (1989), Florida (2010[a]), Georgia (2012), Illinois (1998), Louisiana (2006), Oregon (1991), and Texas (1989); Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (1998); Zambia (2009[a]); and Zimbabwe (1996).

[a] Indicates legislation based on the text of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration with amendments as adopted in 2006.
[b] Overseas territory of the United Kingdom.
[c] The legislation amends previous legislation based on the Model Law.
[d] The legislation has been further amended in 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2009.

[27] Since States enacting legislation based upon a model law have the flexibility to depart from the text, these lists are only indicative of the enactments that were made known to the UNCITRAL Secretariat. The legislation of each State should be considered in order to identify the exact nature of any possible deviation from the model in the legislative text that was adopted. The year of enactment provided in this note is the year the legislation was passed by the relevant legislative body, as indicated to the UNCITRAL Secretariat; it does not address the date of entry into force of that piece of legislation, the procedures for which vary from State to State, and could result in entry into force sometime after enactment. In addition, there may be subsequent amending or repealing legislation that has not been made known to the UNCITRAL Secretariat.

B. UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers (1992)

8. A directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union based on the principles of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers was issued on 27 January 1997.

C. UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996)

9. Legislation based on or influenced by the Model Law has been adopted in 71 States in a total of 150 jurisdictions:

Antigua and Barbuda (2006[d]); Australia (2011[a,b]), in Australian Capital Territory (2012[a,b]), New South Wales (2010[a,b]), Northern Territory (2011[a,b]), Queensland (2013[a,b]), South Australia (2011[a,b]), Tasmania (2010[a,b]), Victoria (2011[a,b]), and Western Australia (2011[a,b]); Bahamas (2003); Bahrain (2002); Bangladesh (2006[a,d]); Barbados (2001); Belize (2003); Bhutan (2006); Brunei Darussalam (2000); Canada, in Alberta (2001[b]), British Columbia (2001[b]), Manitoba (2000[b]), New Brunswick (2001[b]), Newfoundland and Labrador (2001[b]), Northwest Territories (2011[b]), Nova Scotia (2000[b]), Nunavut (2004[b]), Ontario (2001[b]), Prince Edward Island (2001[b]), Quebec (2001[d]), Saskatchewan (2000[b]), and Yukon (2000[b]); Cabo Verde (2003); China (2004), in Hong Kong, China (2000), and Macao, China (2005[d,b]); Colombia (1999[a]); Dominica (2013[a]); Dominican Republic (2002[a]); Ecuador (2002[a]); El Salvador (2015[d]); Fiji (2017[a]); France (2000); Gambia (2009[a]); Ghana (2008[a]); Grenada (2008); Guatemala (2008[a]); Haiti (2017[a]); Honduras (2015); India (2000[a]); Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2004); Ireland (2000); Jamaica (2006); Jordan (2001); Kuwait (2014[a,d]); Lao People's Democratic Republic (2012[a]); Liberia (2002[a]); Madagascar (2014[a]); Malawi (2016[a]); Malaysia (2006); Malta (2002); Mauritius (2000); Mexico (2000); Mozambique (2017[a]); New Zealand (2002); Oman (2008[a]); Pakistan (2002); Panama (2001[a]); Paraguay (2010); Philippines (2000); Qatar (2010[a]); Republic of Korea (1999); Rwanda (2010[a]); Saint Kitts and Nevis (2011[a]); Saint Lucia (2011); Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2007); Samoa (2008); San Marino (2013[a]); Saudi Arabia (2007); Seychelles (2001[a]); Singapore (2010[a,b]); Slovenia (2000); South Africa (2002[a]); Sri Lanka (2017[a,b]); Syrian Arab Republic (2014[a,d]); Thailand (2002); Trinidad and Tobago (2011[a]); United Arab Emirates (2006); United Kingdom, in Bailiwick of Guernsey (2000[f]), Bailiwick of Jersey (2000[f]), Bermuda (1999[g]), Cayman Islands (2000[g]), Isle of Man (2000[f]), Montserrat (2009[g]), and the Turks and Caicos Islands (2000[g]); United Republic of Tanzania (2015[a]); United States, in Alabama (2001[c]), Alaska (2004[c]), Arizona (2000[c]), Arkansas (2001[c]), California (1999[c]), Colorado (2002[c]), Connecticut (2002[c]), Delaware (2000[c]), District of Columbia (2001[c]), Florida (2000[c]), Georgia (2009[c]), Guam (2015[c]), Hawaii (2000[c]), Idaho (2000[c]), Illinois (1998), Indiana (2000[c]), Iowa (2000[c]), Kansas (2000[c]), Kentucky (2000[c]), Louisiana (2001[c]), Maine (2000[c]), Maryland (2000[c]), Massachusetts (2003[c]), Michigan (2000[c]), Minnesota (2000[c]), Mississippi (2001[c]), Missouri (2003[c]), Montana (2001[c]), Nebraska (2000[c]), Nevada (2001[c]), New Hampshire (2001[c]), New Jersey (2000[c]), New Mexico (2001[c]), North Carolina (2000[c]), North Dakota (2001[c]), Ohio (2000[c]), Oklahoma (2000[c]), Oregon (2001[c]), Pennsylvania (1999[c]), Puerto Rico (2006[c]), Rhode Island (2000[c]), South Carolina (2004[c]), South Dakota (2000[c]), Tennessee (2001[c]), Texas (2001[c]), United States Virgin Islands (2003[c]), Utah (2000[c]), Vermont (2003[c]), Virginia (2000[c]), West Virginia (2001[c]), Wisconsin (2004[c]), and Wyoming (2001[c]); Vanuatu (2000); Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2001); Viet Nam (2005[a]); and Zambia (2009[a]).

[a] Except for the provisions on electronic signatures.

[b] The legislation enacts uniform legislation influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based, namely, the Uniform Electronic Commerce Act, adopted in 1999 by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada.

[c] The legislation enacts uniform legislation influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based, namely, the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, adopted in 1999 by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Law.

[d] The legislation is influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based.

[a] The legislation also includes substantive provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts, the status of which can be found in part I, sect. H.
[b] Crown Dependency of the United Kingdom.
[c] Overseas territory of the United Kingdom.
[d] The legislation amends previous legislation based on the Model Law.

D. UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (1997)

10. Legislation based on the Model Law has been adopted in 43 States in a total of 45 jurisdictions:

Australia (2008); Benin (2015[b]); Burkina Faso (2015[b]); Cameroon (2015[b]); Canada (2005); Central African Republic (2015[b]); Chad (2015[b]); Chile (2014); Colombia (2006); Comoros (2015[b]); Congo (2015[b]); Côte d'Ivoire (2015[b]); Democratic Republic of the Congo (2015[b]); Dominican Republic (2015); Equatorial Guinea (2015[b]); Gabon (2015[b]); Greece (2010); Guinea (2015[b]); Guinea-Bissau (2015[b]); Japan (2000); Kenya (2015); Malawi (2015); Mali (2015[b]); Mauritius (2009); Mexico (2000); Montenegro (2002); New Zealand (2006); Niger (2015[b]); Philippines (2010); Poland (2003); Republic of Korea (2006); Romania (2002); Senegal (2015[b]); Serbia (2004); Seychelles (2013); Singapore (2017); Slovenia (2007); South Africa (2000); Togo (2015[b]); Uganda (2011); United Kingdom, in Great Britain (2006), Gibraltar (2014[c]), and the British Virgin Islands (2003[a]); United States (2005); and Vanuatu (2013).

[a] Overseas territory of the United Kingdom.
[b] Enacting the *Acte uniforme portant organisation des procédures collectives d'apurement du passif* (OHADA), adopted on 10 September 2015 at Grand-Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire.

E. UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures (2001)

11. Legislation based on or influenced by the Model Law has been adopted in 32 States:

Antigua and Barbuda (2006); Barbados (2001); Bhutan (2006); Cabo Verde (2003); China (2004); Colombia (2012); Costa Rica (2005[a]); Gambia (2009); Ghana (2008); Grenada (2008); Guatemala (2008); Honduras (2013); India (2009[a]); Jamaica (2006); Madagascar (2014); Mexico (2003); Nicaragua (2010[a]); Oman (2008[a]); Paraguay (2010); Peru (2000); Qatar (2010); Rwanda (2010); Saint Kitts and Nevis (2011); Saint Lucia (2011); Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2007); San Marino (2013); Saudi Arabia (2007[a]); Thailand (2001); Trinidad and Tobago (2011); United Arab Emirates (2006); United Kingdom, in Montserrat (2009[b]); Viet Nam (2005); and Zambia (2009).

[a] The legislation is influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based.
[b] Overseas territory of the United Kingdom.

F. UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation (2002)

12. Legislation based on or influenced by the Model Law has been adopted in 33 States in a total of 45 jurisdictions:

Albania (2011[d]); Belgium (2005); Benin (2017[e]); Bhutan (2013); Burkina Faso (2017[e]); Cameroon (2017[e]); Canada, in Nova Scotia (2005[b]), and Ontario (2010[b]); Central African Republic (2017[e]); Chad (2017[e]); Comoros (2017[e]); Congo (2017[e]); Côte d'Ivoire (2017[e]); Croatia (2003); Democratic Republic of the Congo (2017[e]); Equatorial Guinea (2017[e]), France (2011[c]); Gabon (2017[e]); Guinea (2017[e]); Guinea-Bissau (2017[e]); Honduras (2000); Hungary (2002); Luxembourg (2012); Malaysia (2012); Mali (2017[e]); Montenegro (2005[c]); Nicaragua (2005); Niger (2017[e]);

Senegal (2017[e]); Slovenia (2008); Switzerland (2008[c]); Togo (2017[e]); the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2009); and United States, in District of Columbia (2006[a]), Hawaii (2013[a]); Idaho (2008[a]), Illinois (2004[a]), Iowa (2005[a]), Nebraska (2003[a]), New Jersey (2004[a]), Ohio (2005[a]), South Dakota (2007[a]), Utah (2006[a]), Vermont (2005[a]), and Washington (2005[a]).

[a] The legislation enacts uniform legislation influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based, namely, the Uniform Mediation Act, adopted in 2001 (amended in 2003) by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

[b] The legislation enacts uniform legislation influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based, namely, the Uniform [International] Commercial Mediation Act, adopted in 2005 by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada.

[c] The legislation is influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based.

[d] The legislation amends previous legislation based on the Model Law.

[e] Enacting the *Acte uniforme relatif à la médiation (OHADA), adopted on 11 November 2017 at Conakry, Guinea*.

G. UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement (2011)[28]

13. The UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement as adopted in 2011 forms the basis of or is reflected in the public procurement laws and regulations in the following States, though the extent to which the resulting regulatory framework incorporates the provisions of the Model Law varies, as that framework also reflects legal traditions, domestic policy and other objectives:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan and Zambia.

14. The following organizations use the Model Law and accompanying Guide to Enactment as a benchmark for public procurement law reform in countries of their operation:

African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Inter-American Development Bank, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the World Bank.

III. Status of other UNCITRAL texts

A. UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules

15. Previous annual reports in this series also presented a non-exhaustive list of arbitration centres which (i) have institutional rules based on, or inspired by, the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, (ii) administer arbitral proceedings or provide administrative services under the Rules, and/or (iii) act as an appointing authority under the Rules. No changes have been made to the table since the last annual report in this series (A/CN.9/909) was issued.

[28] The UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement (2011) is a revision of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services (1994). *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/49/17 and Corr.1), annex I. Historical status information on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services (1994) is available on the UNCITRAL website, www.uncitral.org/uncitral/uncitral_texts/procurement_infrastructure.html.

B. UNCITRAL Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (effective date: 1 April 2014)

16. The following table presents a non-exhaustive list of investment treaties reviewed since 24 April 2017, when the last annual report in this series (A/CN.9/909) was issued, where the Rules on Transparency, or provisions modelled on the Rules on Transparency, are applicable in some instances of investor-State dispute resolution. The list is based on the database of international investment agreements maintained by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).[29]

Treaty	*Signature*	*Entry into force*	*Relevant articles*
CPTPP Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership	4 February 2016		Article 9.19.4(c), Article 9.24, Additional elements of transparency in 9.23
Rwanda-United Arab Emirate BIT Agreement between the Republic of Rwanda and the United Arab Emirates on the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments	1 November 2017		Article 14.1(e)**
Argentina-Chile BIT Free Trade Agreement between Argentina and Chile	2 November 2017		Article 8.24.4(b), Article 8.32*

* Specific treaty provision on transparency

** Application of the Rules of Transparency, unless otherwise decided by the disputing parties

[29] International Investment Agreements Navigator, available from http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IIA.